

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application and stand rejected.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C §102

Claims 1, 11 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,877,023 to Maffeis et al. In particular, the Examiner finds that, with regard to claim 1, Maffeis discloses all of the claimed limitations. Applicants have reviewed the reference with care, paying particular attention to the passages cited, and are compelled to respectfully disagree with the Examiner's characterization of this reference.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, "the electronic system being selectively coupled to a first wireless network or a second wireless network through the electronic peripheral device." Maffeis fails to disclose or suggest this limitation. The Examiner asserts that element 1a in Fig. 1 of Maffeis is analogous to the electronic system, element 3 is analogous to the first wireless network, element 7 is analogous to the second wireless network, and element 2c is analogous to the electronic peripheral device. However, it is clear from the figure as well as the associated description that element 1a (the electronic system) cannot be selectively coupled to element 3 (In Fig. 1 of Maffeis first wireless network) or element 7 (In Fig. 1 of Maffeis second wireless network) through element 2c (In Fig. 1 of Maffeis electronic peripheral device), because element 2c is simply a terminal device that only communicates with element 1a through a wireless protocol (WAP), and there is absolutely nothing in Maffeis that could lead a skilled reader to understand that element 2c can be a device offering functionality to alternatively/selectively connect element 1a to two different networks. Should the Examiner disagree, Applicants respectfully request him to clearly and specifically point out where Maffeis discloses this feature in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.104(c)2.

We note that claim 1 further recites that "when the electronic system is coupled to the first wireless network, the first module transmits the first signals received from the first wireless network to the electronic system *through the first interface, the second interface, and the third*

interface in order” [emphasis added], and that Maffeis also fails to disclose or suggest this limitation. The Examiner asserts that the WAP shown in Fig. 1 of Maffeis is analogous to the claimed first module (and the first interface), element 4a is analogous to the claimed second interface, and TCP is analogous to the claimed third interface. However, we note that the signal transmitted from the WAP of Maffeis (the first interface) to element 1a (the electronic system) does not pass through element 3 (the first wireless network), element 4a (the second interface), and the TCP (the third interface) in order. Should the Examiner disagree, he is again respectfully invited to cite the precise portion of Maffeis that expressly supports the Examiner’s interpretation.

Additionally, claim 1 recites “*a second interface coupled to the first interface* for transmitting a plurality of signals between the first module and the second module” [emphasis added], yet another limitation not disclosed nor suggested by Maffeis. As clearly shown in Fig. 1 of Maffeis, element 4a (the alleged second interface) is directly coupled to TCP (the third interface) and is most categorically not coupled to the WAP (the first interface). Thus, it is beyond argument that element 4a must communicate with the WAP through the TCP and element 1a.

Finally, we note that the Examiner regards that the processor is inherently in element 1a (the electronic system) of Maffeis, but that claim 1 recites that the processor is in the electronic peripheral device, not in the electronic system.

In view of all of the preceding, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is in fact novel, non-obvious, and patentable over the art on record, and ask the Examiner to kindly reconsider and pass the claim to issue.

Applicants further submit that the above discussion of claim 1 is equally probative of the allowability of claims 11 and 20, and respectfully request the Examiner to kindly pass these claims to issue as well.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C §103

Claims 2-10 and 12-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maffei in view of what is well known in the art. Applicants respectfully disagree, and further note that claims 2-10 and 12-19 depend from claims 1 and 11, respectively. "If an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, then any claim depending therefrom is nonobvious." *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Therefore, in light of the above discussion of claim 1, Applicants submit that claims 2-10 and 12-19 are also allowable.

Regarding the prior art made of record by the Examiner but not relied upon, Applicants believe that this art does not render the pending claims unpatentable.

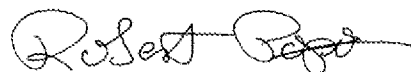
In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully urge the Examiner to pass this case to issue.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

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Respectfully submitted,



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